



HELLO SHAOLIN KEMPO ARTS FAMILIES!

Our dojo has been invited to compete in the Memorial Day Classic Martial Arts tournament, an open tournament hosted by Ten Tigers Martial Arts dojo in Las Vegas on Saturday, May 28th. This tournament is for styles similar to our style of Martial Arts, Shaolin Kempo. The Memorial Day Classic will be held at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino located at 4000 W. Flamingo Road in downtown Las Vegas.

The host of the Memorial Day classic has previously run large Las Vegas tournaments and is very experienced so we anticipate a professionally run event. We spoke with him at length and got all the 411 for you. We are very excited to be participating in such an event. As you can imagine, these types of tournaments have been put on hold due to the pandemic so this is something to look forward to as we return to normalcy!

Trophies will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> place. Katanas and trophies will be awarded in the Adult Black Belt division. Number of competitors per division is tbd. If a division gets large, the tournament organizer will split it into two groups. The groups will be divided by Beginning-Intermediate belts and Advanced belt levels although not exactly specified at this time. Likely White-Orange or Purple and Blue or Green and above. It will depend on the number of competitors at those ranks. Most importantly, you will be placed in the correct age division.

The schedule call times are below. Competitors should arrive 30 minutes before their first scheduled event. Sensei Joey and family will be there at 8:30 a.m. until the end of the tournament.

A ring announcer will direct the belt and age groups to one of the 10 rings. All events are anticipated to start and end in and around the scheduled allotted time. Parents are welcome and encouraged to take photos and videos! Please have your child practice and attend class regularly in preparation for the tournament.

The cost for the tournament is \$75.00 to participate in 1-3 events. Spectator tickets are \$10.00 each. Tournament shirts are \$25.00 each. See photo

All monies will be collected by Sensei Lori and must be cash only (or Venmo @Lori-Larocque). There are no refunds, no exceptions. Thank you for understanding. Deadline to submit your enrollment application/liability waiver and \$ to me is May 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in participating, please RSVP to Sensei Lori and we will email you the application.

Here are some guidelines to help inform you about the process and make it a positive experience!

### **SPARRING**

- If you/your child is competing in a sparring event, he/she will be sparring against a peer that is close in their age and rank. This will make it a fair and equitable opponent.
- Sparring is judged by 3 points. All points are scored with light contact to the front part of the upper body, above the belt. Contact to the face counts; remember you are in headgear with plastic face mask so you are protected. All points are honored for the competitor who scores first, so we will be working on timing and agility in class to help encourage those skills.
- There will be multiple judges, all Black Belts or Martial Arts instructors to make each match fair. If you are a Black Belt at our dojo and would like to assist in judging, please see Sensei Lori.
- Strikes below the belt and to the back are not allowed.
- Please bring all of your sparring gear. It has been pre-approved by the tournament host

### **WEAPONS AND FORMS**

- Students competing in forms will be judged on: **Speed, focus, power, loud kiais, intensity, balance, and technique**

## **SCHEDULE**

**9:00-10:00 a.m. Ages 4-9 Boys and Girls Kata and Sparring**

**10:00-10:30 a.m. Ages 12 and under weapons**

**10:30-12:00 p.m. Demos/Instructor Divisions**

**12:00-1:00 p.m. Ages 10-12 Boys and Girls Kata and Sparring**

**1:00-1:30 p.m. Ages 13+ weapons**

**1:30-3:30 Ages 13-17 Kata and Sparring**

**1:00-3:30 Ages 18+ Kata and Sparring**

Lastly, while this is a great opportunity, it is not the only tournament that will be offered this year. We will be hosting our traditional in-house Dojo Tournament this Fall, so stay tuned for that date and info!

Sincerely, Sensei Joey and Sensei Lori

